Environmental Restoration (ER) Project Cerro Grande Fire Accelerated Action Information Sheet

Potential Release Site (PRS) 02-009(d) Non-intentional Release

Technical Area (TA)-2, located in Los Alamos Canyon, housed several reactors, including the Omega West and Water Boiler Reactors. The reactors were shutdown, removed from the nuclear facilities list, and placed into the Laboratory's Decontamination and Decommissioning program.

PRS History: PRS 02-009(d) consists of an area of radioactive soil contamination associated with the 1986 decommissioning of a chemical waste shack (Building 2-3) located near the east end of Building 2-1. Field screening was conducted in 1995. Results showed no detectable concentrations of organic chemicals and no alpha activity above instrument background. Beta/gamma activity was elevated slightly above instrument background.

PRS 02-009(d) is not listed on the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments module to the Laboratory's Hazardous Waste Facility permit. The ER Project has not proposed the site for no further action. Existing data is inadequate because the nature and extent of contamination is not known.



Issues of Concern: The area upstream of PRS 02-009(d) burned during the Cerro Grande fire. The intensity of upstream burn was low to moderate. Surface contamination was found during the 1995 field investigation. Contaminated surface soil may be subject to erosion.

Accelerated Action Status: PRS 02-009(d) was evaluated after the Cerro Grande fire. ER Project personnel completed one borehole and collected four samples. The data has not yet been validated or reviewed.

Related Documents:

"TA-2 Water Boiler Reactor
Decommissioning (Phase I)," LANL Report
LA-10890-MS, October 1986.
"Solid Waste Management Units Reports,"
Vol. I of IV (TA-0 through TA-9) LANL
Report LA-UR-90-3400, revised November
1990.

"RFI Work Plan for Operable Unit 1098 (TA-2, 41)," LANL Report LA-UR-92-3825, June 1993.